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PURPOSES OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Local Publicity Officer Asks Support — Building To Be Erected — Meeting in Boone and at Mable Soon.

The American Legion is the youngest organization of its kind holding charter in the United States and is composed of young men who have not had the time nor opportunity to acquire wealth, yet it is doing a great work for its country and suffering humanity. It is composed of fellows who know the war of the cannon and the horror of war. In other words it is composed of young men who shouldered their guns, marched to the bloody battle fields of France to fight and if need be, lay down his life that the world might be free from the iron yoke of autocracy.

Now since the war is over there arose another battle to fight and this battle is on—This is the upliftment and betterment of the country. Why was this great world war fought? What has the United States accomplished for the sons she leaves in France, though poppies bloom where they be?

These are some of the questions that arose in the minds of the boys who fought "over there" and before returning to America went to work to establish some way by which they could make the country for which they had fought, a better place to live in. They decided that this could be done in no better way than thru organization, because it was organization, comradeship and red blooded Americans that won the world war. This organization was begun in Paris by American boys and known as the American Legion.

We have in this county a branch of the American Legion but regret to say that all of the fellows who shouldered arms to fire the gun have not fallen in line with the organization to uphold that for which they fought. Of course all that went to the Army or Navy are true Americans and are glad they had a chance to serve their country in whatever manner the country could use them best. Now follows the battle is not over, the fact of the matter is it has just started. There is a certain responsibility and a certain work for you to do. Are you willing to shoulder this and march against the foe as you did in the years of '17 and '18?—This responsibility is set forth in "The Purpose of the American Legion", which are as follows:

1. To uphold and defend the constitution of the United States.
2. To maintain law and order.
3. To foster and perpetuate a one-hundred per cent Americanism.
4. To preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great World War.
5. To inculcate a sense of obligation to the community, State and Nation.
6. To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses.
7. To make right the master of right.
8. To promote Peace and good-will on earth.
9. To safeguard and transmit to prosperity the principals of justice, freedom and democracy.
10. To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual happiness.

Are these things worth while, and are they worth the consideration of the public in general? We have this question for you to answer for yourself. But we believe every man that was in the service ought to join the American Legion, and every citizen that offered support during the war ought to live up with this organization and give it no light consideration, and all their moral support, because the future of our country depends largely on the kind of citizens we have in it. It is the purpose of the American Legion to make better Americans.—Are you with us?

We have been holding meetings in different sections of the county for the purpose of explaining to the public what the American Legion stands for, and encouraging the men who are eligible to join. Through the courtesy of Prof. I. G. Greer who has been making this round with us and giving in detail what the Legion stands for, we have been having some fine meetings. It would pay you as a war veteran, it would pay you as a civilian to attend one of these meetings. We are especially interested in having the people understand more thoroughly what the principals are, and if you will meet us at Mable, Saturday Night, Dec. 9 and in Boone Saturday Night, Dec. 16th we will have speakers who will show you the organization from start to present time.

We admit our local post has not done what it should have but we have been handicapped on account of having no place to hold our meetings or a place to call the home of

NEW BERN SUFFERS FROM LARGE FIRE

Five hundred Homes Destroyed, 1,800 Homeless and two Million Dollar Loss in Worst Fire in History Of the State.

New Bern Friday sustained perhaps the most severe loss from fire in the history of North Carolina, when a big blaze starting in the forenoon at the Roper Lumber Company plant swept over the city for nine hours, destroying about five hundred residences and business houses and entailing loss estimated Friday night by the mayor of the city as exceeding two million dollars. At least 1,800 people are said to have been made homeless by the flames.

While the entire fire fighting equipment of the city was engaged in fighting the big lumber plant blaze the flames burst out in a neighboring section and it was an hour before aid could be rendered to that spot. Five houses were then in flame and a high wind sent tongues of fire leaping far ahead of the streams of water being hurled into the inferno. Across streets and vacant lots the flames jumped eating up the frame dwellings as if they had been made of paper.

Hundreds of families lost all their worldly possessions and Friday night the homeless ones were being cared for by the balance of the city. Several hundred negro homes were in the number destroyed. Many of these negroes were housed for the first night in a large fertilizer warehouse. Many of the homeless white people were taken care of temporarily in the homes of their more fortunate neighbors. So rapid was the spread of the flames that many people were warned and trucks, automobiles and wagons were pressed into service to help remove furniture and other household effects out of the path of the flames. Buildings were also used to house the homeless for the first night.

More than a dozen people, white and colored, were injured in fighting the fire but none of the injuries were expected to prove fatal. Since the fire raged in daylight all of the occupants of the destroyed residences escaped.

Report on the fire, after the ruins had been more thoroughly investigated, showed that probably more than 1,000 buildings were destroyed in New Bern's great blaze. The number of homeless was also raised from the first estimate of 1,800 to nearly 4,000. Over 2,000 of those whose homes were destroyed were negroes. A thousand tents were sent from Camp Bragg along with other U. S. army supplies on a special train for the relief of the homeless. A big tent city is being established until disposition can be made of those who lost their homes.

New Bern people resolved to buy no Christmas presents but give instead to the suffering, while a large sum of cash has been raised there. Other cities are sending large donations and the American Red Cross is rushing relief to the stricken city. Governor Morrison yesterday ordered troops to patrol the city to prevent possible disorders in view of the fact that the household effects of hundreds of families are scattered over a wide area. Another fire thought to have been of incendiary origin started in a ware house yesterday but was stopped before great damage was done.

BOONE FORK MANUFACTURING COMPANY RESUMES OPERATION

Once again the deep, sonorous whistle of the big lumber mill at Shulls Mills can be heard at 5 a. m. each morning, meaning that the plant is again in operation after a suspension of many months. This is good news, the kind we like to print. For it means that a large number of men have resumed work and that the money paid out by the Corporation means much to the people of this section.

The Legion. We intend in the very near future to erect a building some where in the county, and thereby enable us to do a better work. The place for this building has not been decided upon but to show you the citizens who have been attending our meetings think that we are on the right road and that they would like to have such an organization in the community. At Cove Creek we were offered a lot for the building and labor in helping put it up, at Valle Crusis we had the same offer made us, at Blowing Rock the same. At Rocky Point we had a wonderful meeting, a big crowd and music that could not be surpassed. We hope to have a good crowd at Mable and also at Boone. Come out, see what is going on.

Yours truly,
Watauga Post American Legion,
Russell D. Hodges, Publicity officer.

AN ODE TO A COUNTRY DOCTOR

(This poem, written by Dr. W. R. Butler, is respectfully dedicated to the late Dr. D. R. Stout of Butler, Tenn. Drs. Stout and Butler were for many years fellow practitioners in Western Watauga.)

When memory brings me back to years of long ago,
We were associate Doctors and traveled rough roads you know.
We faced the winds of rough Elk River and likewise Watauga too.
Our pay was very small, compared with the present time,
Although we felt good and happy if we only received a dime.
We were the ethical Doctors, who rode the dapple grays,
They were not the inanimate objects that Doctors ride nowadays.

Our Preceptor has long since felt that impetuous sting of death,
I hope that his soul passed through and is mingling with the blest.
He tutored a class of as loyal Doctors, as ever swung their shingles to the breeze,
They visited the rich and poor alike, and the people were always pleased.

Oh! Some mysterious ghost like myth has tapped your Cerebral Dome,
And locked the Vasso Motor Nerve, that you can no more roam,
And I like Sinbad of the Arabian Nights have wandered far from home.

Doctor, I dedicated this poem to you and your melancholic home,
We will never practice medicine again together, but let us meet around the Throne.
Where all sad aching hearts find their eternal Home.

THEN AND NOW

About fourteen years ago we packed our meager belongings into a wagon and came over the hills to become citizens of Boone. We found a village peopled by quiet, peaceful citizens, about 300 strong, who had the community spirit of all things in common. They knew each other and were neighbors to the fullest extent. But just what changes have been wrought in this space of time can be best ascertained by contrast. Then we found the people worshipping in small wooden churches, now we have two modern brick structures with Sunday School rooms and equipment. Then we found an average attendance in Sunday School alone of about thirty, today it is over two hundred. Then we had four or five business enterprises, today we find over twenty-five and some of them are exceptionally large proportions for this section of the county. One Concern alone recently did \$20,000. worth of business in one month, more by far, than all did a few years ago. Then we wondered if the youths of our town would live to see the advent of the automobile in our midst, today our streets are lined with them to such an extent that traffic ordinances are an absolute necessity.

Then we had to go to distant markets for our requirements in hardware, building materials etc., but now we find full lines of such at our own doors.

Then our streets were a "mud hole" and sidewalks unknown, today our streets are hard and firm and our sidewalks are of the best concrete. Then we had about three brick buildings. What have we today? Come and see. Then a lumber wagon was rarely seen, today there is perhaps a half-million dollars worth of lumber on the yards. Then we were still dreaming of the advent of a railroad to our town. Today it is a reality, and to it must be ascribed its due proportion of credit for our progress. Then we had no soda fountains or drug stores. We venture to say that such larger towns are not as well served in this respect. What town of our size boast of a linotype machine? What town of our size can boast of its many retail and wholesale houses, its banks, hotels, lumber and wood working plants, print shops, its ministers, lawyers, doctors, tanners, plumbers, carpenters, brick masons and last but not least, its churches and schools.

We are now linked with the outside world by railroad and good dirt roads, which have brought these opportunities as well as their responsibilities. How we would like to speak of our good old county, but space forbids. We appeal to the young blood of our town, upon whose shoulders fall its destiny, to guard it well. Our town is good enough for us. Are you good enough for it?
W. R. Gragg,

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

The Baptist State Convention meets in Winston-Salem next Tuesday afternoon and continues thru Thursday.

It is hoped that a number from this section will attend. Parties in automobiles could leave Boone early Tuesday morning and reach Winston-Salem in time.

The convention promises to be one of unusual interest. Features of unusual interest will be addresses delivered by Drs. E. Y. Mullens, Pres. of the Louisville Seminary, M. E. Dodd, pastor First Church, Strampton, La. and L. R. Scarborough, Director of the million dollar campaign.

ANOTHER TEXTILE MILL PROJECTED AT LENOIR

Will be seventh in County and Fifth Within Proximity of the Town.

Construction work on the seventeenth textile mill in the County and fifth within two miles of Lenoir will be commenced within the next few days. Wood work is started on the second mill at Whitel. Lenoir men are projecting this mill. The name of the corporation will be the Nelson Cotton Mill Company.

The new mill will be located on a tract of land adjoining the Whitel cotton mill; just west of it and a short extension of the Whitel mill siding will accommodate the new mill. The mill will have 6,000 spindles and will be organized on thirties single two and three-ply carded yarns.

Application has been made for a charter and as soon as the charter has been received the organization of the mill will be perfected.

It is the purpose of the company to push the work of construction to completion and have the mill in operation as soon as conditions will allow.

The mill, when completed, will furnish employment to about 150 persons, and will carry a payroll of approximately \$15,000. The employees and their families for the new mill, will equal about the same population that Whitel has at the present time. The two added will give the community a good-sized little town. The increased population will provide a much greater market for the surrounding country.

MANY STILL DESTROYED BY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The out-going Board of Commissioners were in adjourning session last Friday and Saturday, transacting a big bunch of unfinished business before yielding their scepters to their successors in office.

They had accumulated at the County jail during the four years administration of Sheriff Young thirty-eight moonshine stills, of every make possible, known to this class of citizenship. They varied in size from an army coffee pot to those large capacity copper specimens, that were doing a thriving business until they were located and seized by the ever watchful officers. It was the duty of the Board to destroy them and accordingly, at noon Friday, with pickaxes and other tools necessary for their complete destruction, they undertook the task and soon they were reduced to "scrap" which will be put on the market as copper scrap.

This makes quite a showing for Sheriff Young and his active deputies.

ROMINGER RUSTLES.

Mr. W. C. Presnell and J. Wayne Harman will soon have the stone bridge in near John Mast's mill if the weather permits, this bridge has been down about two years and will save a lot of inconvenience in the future.

Mr. H. W. Presnell, postmaster of Rominger, made a business trip to Butler, Tenn. Tuesday.

Mr. Audie Presnell took a large load of evergreens to Butler, Tenn. Wednesday. He is doing a good business in this line and evergreens are bringing a good price.

Roby James who has a nice store at Watauga Falls with Rufus Ward as partner bought about two hundred turkeys last week. There are several flocks yet that will probably go out on the Christmas market.

ROBERT K. BRYAN DIES OF APOPLEXY

Son of W. L. Bryan of Boone, who Died Almost Suddenly in San Francisco, Rests by the Sea.

(Robert C. Rivers, Jr.)

A letter to Mr. W. L. Bryan reveals the fact that the death of his son Robert K. Bryan was heralded in these columns recently was due to a stroke of apoplexy, and consequently was almost sudden. The letter was from R. G. Hanson of San Francisco, a friend of the deceased.

"Bob" had just returned to California from a few days' visit to his father in Boone, and had gone back to his "old job" when the messenger came. A few days after arriving San Francisco he complained to Mr. and Mrs. Hansen of unusual dizzy attacks to which no significance was attached. On Wednesday, November 22 he went to work at 8 o'clock, and within an hour was prostrated by the heat, rushed to an emergency hospital, and died there soon afterwards.

Mr. Bryan first left Boone when sixteen years of age and spent the remainder of his 46 years of life, with the exception of a few years, in the western states. Being a great lover of beauty, he spent years travelling from place to place, marveling at the natural wonders of this glorious country in which he felt it was a God-given privilege to live. Some four or five years ago, however after visiting every state in the Union and all cities of any great importance, he cast his lot forever in that stupendous mart of the Pacific, the city in which he died, the great, bustling, living, throbbing "Gateway to the Orient".

It was the pleasure of the writer to spend some months with "Bob" in that port, which he loved with all his heart. He was a booster for the town, a champion of its people, and ever took great pride, as a typical Californian, in telling easterners of the charms of "my city", Frisco. The only real town on the map". Although he didn't pretend to know so many people there, he loved everyone from the laborers on the water front to the brokers, from the newsboys to the mayor, for they were all his friends, because it took them all to make "his town". So it is proper for him to rest where he chose to live, and let us believe he rests well after his busy life. I am honored to say Bob Bryan was my friend, and I have often said no man could have a better one. There were stronger ties between us than are usually found between men. I learned from him and almost unconsciously "copied" some of his excellent traits. He was a man, generous to a fault, broad-minded, a student of human nature, a philosopher and lived without deceit. His death has made me sad but I feel better to have known him.

"Bob" had just ended his ninth round trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and his journey is ended, "beyond the sunset's radiant glow". And when the sun sets behind the Golden Gate, that most beautiful of earthly pictures, it will shine kindly on the new made mound where my friend lies, and the moon, as it casts its silvery rays on Frisco Bay will throw its magic spell on his grave while the waters of the Pacific as they gently kiss the rock-ribbed coast will speak of him and bid him rest in peace.

Where Tennessee's Mother State Leads.

The St. Louis Globe democrat reminds some of the "western states" who want themselves much over good roads that North Carolina has a prominent record in good roads building.

The experts say that North Carolina is next to Penn. In the quality of its highway system. North Carolina has a program involving an expenditure around \$30,000,000. It has more than 3,000 miles of hard roads.

Among the other records North Carolina has are these: Leads in the manufacture of tobacco. It consumes one-fourth of the tobacco crop in the country. It has more cotton mills than any other state in the union. In the number of employees and out put North Carolina leads all of the southern states in cotton manufacturing. It has the largest pulp mill in the country and the biggest aluminum plant in the world.

North Carolina has large water power possibilities. Tennessee has greater water power possibilities. North Carolina has little coal or iron. Tennessee has both.

While the Globe Democrat calls the attention of North Carolina to Missouri we might well call the same progress to the attention of the people of Tennessee.

North Carolina is homogenous. Tennessee is divided into three parts. North Carolina has fierce politics, but they try to do something for their state.

DAIRYING IN WATAUGA COUNTY

Interesting Article by L. D. Lowe Of Banner Elk — Suggests New Strain of Cows To Meet Creamery Demands.

I have taken note from time to time of the vast amount of cheese that has been manufactured and shipped from Watauga for the past few years; that sometime ago there were about nine thousand cows in the county, and that there is a prospect for a creamery to be established in Boone for the purpose of manufacturing the cream into butter, provided that seventy-five farmers will purchase cream separators. But when the farmers undertake to produce cream instead of furnishing milk for a cheese factory, they will find that they will have to have to a different type of cattle from the Holstein or the beef type; they will have to substitute Guernseys and Jerseys in lieu of the cattle which produce a small amount of butter fat. The Holstein will produce a large quantity of milk but it has a low percentage of butter-fat.

If one would mention the value of a fine Jersey or Guernsey cow to the farmer who raises a few good beef cattle to sell each year, he will shake his head in disdain and say that he would not keep one on his place, and tell him of the excellent quality of the milk of a good Guernsey and the amount of butter-fat she will produce in a year, you will find that he has never given the matter a moments thought no made a simple calculation to show that a fine cow of the milk strain will earn him more money than any animal on his farm; while as a matter of fact that more than sixty per cent of the milk cows will not pay for their keep.

The butter from a Guernsey cow is worth 10 or 15 cents more on the pound than butter from the ordinary cow, and it will sell for this difference on the market, and this being true, why should the small farmer not keep good Jerseys or Guernseys, or a grade from the two, for the purpose of supplying his home demands and have some fine butter to spare instead of trying to keep beef cattle, only, and do without milk, cream and butter during a great portion of the time.

The Island of Guernsey is one of the Channel Islands, off the coast of France, and it is said that this Island has belonged to Great Britain for more than a thousand years; that all the cattle on Guernsey Island are thoroughbred Guernseys; that in 1818 there was a law enacted for this Island forbidding the shipment of cattle to this Island; that the blood of this type has been kept pure and they have been bred for the highest quality of milk and the largest amount of butter-fat; and for these reasons the high prices for thoroughbred Guernsey cows are maintained and will prevail for a number of years.

The milk of the Guernsey cow is so rich in butter-fat it is necessary to dilute the milk about one-third with water for her calf to thrive and do well, but if the milk is allowed to stand until the cream rises then take the cream off the calf will thrive as well as it will on the milk of the ordinary cow.

When the farmer who raises cattle of the beef type advises his neighbor who owns a small farm to not invest in a Guernsey cow, he is giving him very poor advice and while he means to advise him well, he is doing him an injury.

A former Watauga man, who now lives in Pennsylvania, says that farmers in that state who send milk to the cities have to keep either Guernsey or Jersey cows to mix the milk with that of Holstein cows to raise the quality to the required test, and this being true, it will be well for the farmers who contemplate furnishing cream for a creamery, to bear in mind that they must keep cows of the dairy type, or they will find by experience what they should have known in advance of their undertaking.

L. D. LOWE.

TWO TAR HEELS ROBBED IN TRACE

Americans tobacco buyers are being held up and robbed in western Trace. The latest victims are R. J. Worthan of Hederson, N. C., who was deprived of money and jewelry while traveling by automobile, and J. J. Harrington of Rocky Mount, N. C., who was robbed on a road from Serres to Salonia. American traders are rarely molested in this region.

We might learn much from our neighboring state. A committee from the Tennessee legislature this year might go over to North Carolina and study that state's road program.